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III. Remarks

Claims 1, 3-15 and 17 are pending in this application. Claims 1, 8, 9, 10, and 12 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Marsters. Claims 1, 3, 4, 13-15 and 17 were rejected under 35 U.S.C. §102(b) as being anticipated by Thayer. Claims 5-7 and 11 were objected to. In this Amendment, claim 1 has been amended and claims 5, 15 and 17 have been cancelled. Reconsideration is respectfully requested.

In response to applicant's prior arguments, the examiner has stated that Marsters and Thayer disclose "parachutes" because the devices shown in those references provide drag. As previously stated, applicant disagrees. The term parachute has a common understanding. Neither Marsters nor Thayer discloses a parachute attached to fishing line as required by the claims.

Nevertheless, in order to expedite prosecution of this application, applicant has amended claim 1 to explicitly describe the characteristics of a parachute. The language from claim 5 relating to the nature of the parachute has been added to claim 1. Thus, claim 1 is claim 5 in independent form. Claim 5 was only objected to and would be allowable if rewritten in independent form. Accordingly, claim 1 is in condition for allowance. Claims 3-14 depend from claim 1 and are allowable for at least the same reasons.

The prior Amendment, filed July 22, 2005, also amended claim 15 in a manner similar to claim 1. However, the Advisory Action indicated that the amendment of claim 15 raised new issues for further consideration and search. It further indicated that claims 1, 3, 4, and 6-14, as amended in the prior amendment, would be allowable if claims 15 and 17 were cancelled. In order to expedite prosecution of this application, the present amendment cancels claims 15 and 17. Accordingly, all remaining claims are in condition for allowance.

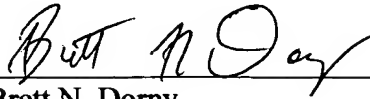
In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, applicants believe that this application is in condition for allowance. If the examiner has any questions regarding this amendment or the application in general, he is encouraged to telephone the undersigned attorney so that prosecution of this application can be expedited.

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Respectfully submitted,

A handwritten signature in cursive script, appearing to read "Brett N. Dorny", is written over a horizontal line.

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